

IMPROVED POSITION AND AZIMUTH DETERMINING SYSTEM

DESCRIPTION

The Improved Position and Azimuth Determining System (IPADS) will be a HMMWV-mounted, inertial navigation surveying system. IPADS will provide location coordinates and altitude in meters and direction in mils, and will be capable of rapid and accurate self-alignment by gyrocompass techniques. The major components of the IPADS include a Position Navigation Unit, a Control and Display Unit, Battery Charger Unit, and Porro Prism Assembly. Using slightly modified commercial-off-the-shelf items, the IPADS will replace the currently fielded AN/USQ-70 in all Marine Corps and Army units.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

IPADS supports modernization of field artillery survey capabilities by replacing the obsolescent Position and

Azimuth Determining System (PADS) that was fielded in the 1980s. The availability of PADS hardware and components is becoming increasingly problematic and will likely be unavailable as early as the FY 2005-2006 timeframe.

PROGRAM STATUS

IPADS is an Army led, joint-interest program. IPADS is in the post-Milestone B phase, with a planned Milestone C initial program review scheduled for the third quarter of FY 2004. An Army contract was awarded to L3 Communications Corp in July 2003. The Army IPADS schedule requires the completion of testing and evaluation, a full-rate production decision, and the equipping of the first units within one year from contract award. Operational testing is currently scheduled for first quarter of FY 2004.

PROCUREMENT PROFILE:

Quantity:

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

TBD

FY 04

0

FY 05

27